

CENTENNIAL HISTORY

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

Lima  
Mansfield  
Marion  
Newark

July 1, 1969

OSU-Lima Campus  
Centennial History

In 1957, The Ohio State University trustees announced formation of a committee to recommend improvements for higher education throughout the state including establishment of a regional campus in Lima.

Within the next two years Bowling Green State University also announced intentions of possibly beginning a branch in Lima which prompted the city board of education to launch a survey of local needs and resources to determine if a desire for such an institution existed.

Named to conduct the survey of laboratories, classrooms, library facilities, cost factors, probable enrollment and public opinion were the Association of Commerce's education committee, League of Women Voters, Lima Branch of the Association of University Women and the Lima School System.

In June 1959, Lima School Superintendent Gordon G. Humbert sent an official invitation to Ohio State President Novice Fawcett for establishment of an OSU campus in Lima.

Professor Kenneth J. Arisman, OSU director of off-campus education, told school and civic leaders in March of 1960 that they needed to raise \$20,000 to bring laboratory and library facilities to OSU standards. The local college interest group also agreed to an OSU stipulation that the community underwrite possible losses during the first year of the branch's operation.

On April 8, 1960, Ohio State announced it would establish a branch in Lima offering freshmen courses in the first year with the addition of sophomore studies in the second year. Initial courses were offered in arts and sciences, agriculture, education, engineering and commerce.

With the first classes to begin in the autumn of 1960 in Lima Senior High School, Arthur W. Craft, a Lima Senior metals instructor, was named branch director and an 18-member advisory committee was selected.

Dr. Fawcett addressed the branch dedication luncheon on Sept. 7, 1960, and the first student orientation program began 10 days later. Classes scheduled in the late afternoon and evening, began Sept. 26.

Enrollment the first quarter was 320 students instructed by two full-time professors living in Lima and other instructors from Bluffton College, Ohio Northern University and Lima Senior High School.

Craft resigned as branch director in January of 1961 and he was succeeded by James Thedieck, a 32-year-old law student at Ohio Northern. Thedick resigned June 30 of that year, and J. McLean Reed, former Lima school superintendent, was named to the post.

The branch expanded its curriculum under Reed's "Plan for Progress Program" and a scholarship development fund was launched under direction of Mrs. Sheldon Ackerman in 1962. This fund surpassed \$100,000 by the fall of 1968.

Early in 1963, State Sen. Ross Pepple announced attempts to secure 150 acres of Lima State Hospital grounds for development as a permanent OSU-Lima Campus

Pepple also asked the Senate for \$6 million to expand the local campus to a four-year college. As Pepple continued to press the legislature to establish a permanent campus in Lima, the Galvin Foundation announced a donation of \$250,000 in 1963 toward acquisition of the needed land.

With voter approval of a \$250-million statewide bond issue in November 1963, the Ohio Board of Regents allocated \$300,000 for planning a permanent branch in Lima. Along with \$150,000 pledged for the building of roads and drainage ditches by Allen County Commissioners and the Galvin donation, campus funding had reached \$700,000.

In a special December session that year, the Senate finance committee, at the urgings of Sen. Pepple, boosted the Lima Campus allocation to \$3.3 million.

After a survey by the Lima Area Chamber of Commerce indicated between \$550,000 and \$600,000 was needed to purchase a permanent branch site, 565 acres were selected in September 1964, between Mumaugh and Thayer roads just off U.S. 30-S in Bath Township.

Charles Cook, local businessman, was named to head the fund-raising drive for \$365,000 needed in addition to the Galvin gift for purchase of the site. Architects Strong, Strong and Strong of Lima were later named to plan the initial branch building.

Early in 1965, the fund drive topped \$400,000 and on March 12 plans were announced for the \$1.5-million first building. Later that year the state controlling board released \$80,000 to plan the second campus structure.

On Sept. 18, 1966, John Galvin Hall was dedicated as campus enrollment neared 800 students.

Board of Regents Chancellor Dr. John D. Millett in November of 1966 suggested the possibility of establishing a technical education program on the campus. A local committee was named to study the suggestion and a survey was conducted to see if the

community desired such a program.

By June 1967, bids totaling \$835,154 for construction of the second campus structure were opened in Columbus. This building was dedicated on Sept. 6, 1967.

One month later, Dr. Richard Zimmerman, University College dean at OSU, and Dr. Robert Ramsey, Penta Technical College president, announced the Lima Campus would have a \$1-million technical institute within two years. The institute would be a branch of Penta serving a 10-county area and offering associate degrees to high school graduates in various two-year technical programs.

By December of that year, Daniel Brown, guidance and admissions counselor at Penta, was named chairman of technical education at the Lima Campus. The Board of Regents approved \$1 million to finance the technical center in January of 1968.

Meanwhile, the campus administrative staff was expanded with the naming of Frank Hill as Business Officer and John Rockhold as assistant campus director and Richard West as student activities coordinator. A freshman survey course was added by the fall of '68 along with an initial continuing education program.

By October 1968, OSU-Lima became the largest campus in Ohio State's regional system.

Following a suggestion by Gov. James Rhodes in February 1969, that regional campuses throughout the state be expanded to four-year colleges, Sen. Tennyson Guyer, at the prodding of former Senator Pepple, introduced a bill in the Senate to make Lima Campus a four-year college by Sept. 1, 1971.

In summary, Lima Campus has grown from initial classes in Lima Senior High School for 320 students to its own campus with an enrollment of more than 1,000 in 10 short years. Post high school technical education will be offered in the fall of 1969 and rapid expansion of the campus to a four-year institution rests in the hands of the Ohio General Assembly.

## MANSFIELD CAMPUS HISTORY

The Mansfield Branch of The Ohio State University began its operations in 1958. Its first Director was W.L. Miller. Classes were held at the Mansfield Senior High School building, while offices were established at Ausdale and Virginia Avenues. The number of students averaged between 150 and 200 in its early years and the faculty with few exceptions commuted from the Columbus campus.

In 1962 Richard Q. King was named as Director replacing W. L. Miller. It was during the same year that the Mansfield community began to think in terms of having a permanent campus. The enrollment at this time was close to 300 and 23 courses were being offered in the Autumn quarter. In November of 1962 the local Advisory Committee was formed with Stanleigh B. Vinson being named as its first Chairman. This committee spearheaded the drive for the establishment of a permanent campus. Throughout the early part of 1963 there was a considerable question as to whether the campus would be located in Mansfield or in another part of northcentral Ohio. Enrollment in the Fall of 1963 had risen to 381 and in December of that year the Senate Finance Committee approved 2.2 million dollars for the Mansfield-OSU campus.

During the early part of 1964 a search for a campus site was undertaken by local community leaders. On April 10, 1964, the Ohio Board of Regents confirmed that Mansfield would be the site for the new campus. On April 22, 1964, the University recommended that a 500 acre tract of land situated just northwest of Mansfield within the triangle bordered by State Route 39, Walker Lake Road and Lexington-Springmill Road as the new campus site. The Lions Club of Ontario had previously obtained option on this site.

On May 5, 1964, a campaign was launched to raise \$350,000 for purchase of the ground. Avery C. Hand, Jr., President of the First National Bank and James C. Gorman III, Vice-President and Treasurer of Gorman-Rupp were named as co-Chairman of the fund drive. By June 30, 1964, a total of \$554,363.60 had been pledged in the campaign. The enrollment for Fall quarter of 1964 was 616 students and 28 courses were being offered.

On June 28, 1965, ground was broken for the first building. James Rhodes, Governor of Ohio, and Dr. Novice G. Fawcett, President of the University, participated in that ceremony. Classes were still being held in the High School and in the autumn of that year enrollment reached 982. Construction of the building began in August 1965. On October 2, 1966, the first building was dedicated while plans for a second building were underway. The Advisory Board at this time consisted of: B. H. Little, Chairman; Roger A. Black, John Bolesky, Mrs. W. A. Calhoun, Wm. A. Calhoun, Bryon H. Carmean, Richard Christiansen, John B. Conrad, James P. Crissman, Dr. James H. Fry, Roy B. Gardner, Mr. K. R. Gerhardstein, Edward H. Goebel, James C. Gorman III, Gary Haley, D. D. S., Avery Hand, Jr., Albert Hartman, Rex Hess, James H. Hoffman, Richard Q. King, Dale B. Kinney, Robert E. Mabey, Harold Marshall, Tom E. Mattox, Clayton Mayer, Howard G. Miller, George J. Murray, Charles Nail, Sr., Richard Phillips, W. W. Purday, Wm. R. Riester D. S. C., Warren E. Rupp, Mrs. Grant Smith, Charles K. Spreng, C. N. Sutton, W. Richard Tappan, Stanleigh Vinson, Robert G. White, D. Ken Woodman, W. W. Zinser, and the first resident faculty were named: Gary Polster, Dr. George Bart, Thomas Dely, Dr. Allen Scholl, James R. Zeller, Jerry L. Bidwell, Charles R. May, James T. Ransom, David C. Marsh, Mrs. Florence Allen, Charles Murphy, Deno G. Torges, Alfred Adams, Dallas Menges, Gerald Rice, Palmer



Overholt, Timothy Kahrl, Lothar Paul Krause, Miss Louise Beck, William Bradfield, Dr. David A. Nickey, Dr. Robert Flanders, Gerrit J. tenZythoff, Carl E. Skeen, Sydney Cohen, Librarian, Miss Donna Daniel, Asst. Librarian, William M. Hill, II, Constandy K. Khury, Bruce E. Partner, Norman Saunders, Richard L. Wink, Dr. Nicholas L. Petruzzella, Richard Learner, Dr. Walter Kania, Rene Linkhorn, Lida E. Wenzel, Frank J. Brancely, Jr., Janet Fritz, Harriet J. Rudolph. Participating in the Dedication were the Right Rev. Msgr. James F. Hebbler, who gave the invocation, Mr. Bernard Little, Chairman of the Advisory Board; Dr. Novice Fawcett, President of the University; Dr. John D. Millett, Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents; James A. Rhodes, Governor of Ohio; Mr. Ken Woodman, Editor of the Mansfield News-Journal; Rev. Warren C. Johnson and Richard Q. King. The number of students enrolled was 1148, there were 117 sections and 51 different courses being offered.

On August 5, 1965, it was announced that a geodetic base line would be constructed on the campus grounds. This was the first geodetic standard base line on this continent and the sixth in the world. This project was completed in 1967.

In December of 1966 Dennis Bell became Interim Director and he was replaced by Dr. George J. Bart, who was appointed Acting Director, in September 1967.

On January 4, 1967 bids were asked for the Phase II building which was to house a new cafeteria and a library with the approximate area of 35,000 sq. ft. Contracts for \$899,980.00 for construction for the building were awarded March 8, 1967.

On July 1, 1968, Dr. Robert C. Gibson was named as Director. Phase II building was completed July 17, 1968. Enrollment Autumn quarter of 1968 was

999 students. There were 60 courses offered with 122 sections. The number of faculty was 48.

In the Spring of 1968 the Mansfield Campus offered, through the Office of Continuing Education, its first non-credit course.

In the Spring of 1969 plans were being made for the construction of a third building to house the Northcentral Ohio Technical Institution. It was estimated that this building would be ready for occupancy by Spring 1970 at which time the Mansfield Campus would have The Ohio State University offering lower division baccalaureate programs and the Northcentral Ohio Technical Institution offering associate degree programs in technology.

## Brief History of the Marion Campus

The Board of Trustees of The Ohio State University authorized the establishment of a regional campus in Marion to begin classes the Autumn Quarter 1957. This venture was effected with the full cooperation of the Marion City Board of Education which provided office and classroom facilities in the Harding High School. On June 1, 1957, the Marion Campus office opened to provide information and applications to prospective students and to begin preparation for the beginning of classes in September.

The community assisted the University's coming to Marion in many ways in addition to offering the physical plant to house the program; Marion industry contributed funds to refurbish existing laboratories to provide for college-level instruction; the Marion Area Chamber of Commerce agreed to underwrite the first year's operation to \$10,000; local organizations and industries contributed more than \$7,000 for scholarships for the first year; the Board of Trustees of the Marion Carnegie Library provided space for university students and added several volumes and periodicals at the request of the University.

On September 25, 1957, classes began at Marion with a total enrollment of 166 students. The University brought to Marion a fully accredited program backed by the prestige of a long established institution. During that Autumn Quarter, there were thirteen instructors who commuted

from the Columbus Campus to teach courses at Marion. The following year several second year courses were added and the enrollment increased to 205.

Early in 1965 it became evident that the Marion Campus might share in the proceeds of a state bond issue which was to be voted upon in the May primaries. In April the Ohio Board of Regents indicated that permanent facilities could be constructed to house the Marion Campus if the community would contribute \$400,000 to the project. The Marion Campus Steering Committee immediately incorporated itself into the Marion Area Campus Development Foundation, a nonprofit organization, and set about making plans to raise the \$400,000 by popular subscription. As soon as the bond issue had been passed by the people of Ohio, a drive for funds was undertaken. By the end of July, the closing date of the drive, the organization had secured \$627,000 in pledges and began to negotiate with the Marion County Commissioners for the purchase of 180 acres of county land owned on Route 95 east of Marion. After the General Assembly passed the necessary legislation to permit the Commissioners to sell the County owned land, the Marion Area Campus Development Corporation purchased the 180 acres and presented it to The Ohio State University. In August 1965 the General Assembly allocated \$1.8 millions for the permanent facility at Marion. Architects were hired and together with officials of the University immediately began planning the building. Bids were let in the fall of 1966 and the groundbreaking for the new building was held October 29, 1966.

The new building was completed and ready for occupancy for the Spring Quarter, 1968. By Autumn 1968 the enrollment had grown to 550 and daytime classes were scheduled for the first time at Marion. The Marion Campus had begun to develop its own faculty, having twelve resident faculty members at that time, but continued to rely upon the Columbus Campus to supply the balance of the instruction with commuting faculty.

Enrollment growth at the Marion Campus has been steady rather than spectacular. It is evident that an ever increasing percentage of Marion area students is depending upon the regional campus for its first two years of instruction. There has been over the period of operation in Marion, a steady increase in course offerings, commiserate with its enrollment growth patterns, providing a well-planned development toward offering a complete lower division curriculum for most baccalaureate programs.

## NEWARK CAMPUS

From eighty to 737 students in thirteen years constitutes the recorded growth of Newark Campus of The Ohio State University, and it is quite good when one considers the proximity of Newark not only to the main campus, but to private colleges and two regional campuses of Ohio University as well. And although growth in the beginning was somewhat slow, it has picked up considerably in the past few years.

Newark and Marion were the first two regional campuses of Ohio State. While serving as superintendent of the Newark Public Schools, Dr. Thomas B. Southard heard of plans to establish regional campuses. He communicated this information to the Newark City Board of Education and suggested that that body invite the University to locate a campus in Newark. He further recommended that the city schools offer facilities in which to hold college classes. The board concurred in both proposals. According to O. S. U. Archivist Bruce Harding, announcement of proposed branch campuses first appeared in the minutes of the Board of Trustees of O. S. U. for January 14, 1957. Whether Marion or Newark was the first community to receive a local campus is academic, although Maxwell K. Douglas, first Director of the Newark Campus, believes that there is little doubt that Newark was first to be granted an extension of the parent institution. Whatever that situation, Newark and Marion were the two selected among some sixty communities that applied for such an honor by late summer of that year.

On June 1, 1957, an office of administration for the school opened in an old dwelling at 164 West Main Street. As stated above, Mr. Douglas became the first Director of the campus, and Mrs. Herbert W. Bope, the first office secretary. Mrs. Bope still serves Newark Campus as secretary in charge of student records. John Paul Harlow, a graduate of Newark Senior High School with the Class of 1956, was the first student to enroll in the Autumn Quarter of 1957.

Step by step the various phases of the machinery of higher education were brought into play by Dr. Kenneth Arisman of Columbus and Max Douglas. On September 9, enrollees took placement tests in English and mathematics. On September 10, two hundred local citizens gathered for a luncheon meeting sponsored by the Newark Area Chamber of Commerce to hear Novice G. Fawcett discuss the concept and place of the regional campus in the organizational architecture of a large university. At this luncheon first recipients of Newark Campus Scholarships were announced and each was introduced. They were Miss Sally Madden of Frazeyburg, Miss Barbara Pitzer of Licking County, Ralph Lahman of Granville, and Van Oxley and Richard Connor of Newark. On October 1, students attended their first classes in the old high school building at 146 West Main Street.

During Mr. Douglas' tenure enrollment increased slowly at first, but then sped up considerably after the first three years. Meanwhile, when the student body of the high school moved to a new facility in April of 1961, the office area of the old structure became available to the University; thus in September of the same year, Mr. Douglas located his new headquarters

in the Annex, a building that had been erected in 1906. Here he remained until he had to move into the East Wing of the old high school, in November of 1964, because of the decision of the Board of Education to raze the Annex. In this new location, the Director and the Newark Ohio State program shared the 1939 building with what had become Central Elementary School. During this entire time University people had come to classes at four in the afternoon and departed at ten in the evening. During this period, also, Mr. Douglas had served as Director only on a part-time basis, for he taught at the high school in the morning. And then Newark residents learned that beginning on July 1, 1965, Newark Campus would have a full-time Director. He was Dr. Robert A. Barnes.

With the advent of Dr. Barnes, change developed rapidly. A former horse barn at the rear of the Clarence Heisey residence just off the new high school campus was renovated by the John J. O'Neill Company, and the administrative staff moved into it during the summer preceding the Autumn Quarter of 1965. Constructed of solid oak and walnut, "The Barn", as it was affectionately called by students and faculty alike, was attractively paneled, with five office areas on the first floor with adequate reception space in the middle. The gabled second floor, consisting of one large room running full length of the building and a smaller room to the side, served for meetings and social events. The student body followed the administrators at the beginning of the Autumn Quarter: they met their four o'clock classes in Buildings D, E and F of the new high school facility. The University library



occupied the school library in Building G daily from 3:30 until nine o'clock in the evening.

Serving the local campus since its inception has been the Newark Campus Advisory Board, whose members are appointed by the president of the University. Chairman of this board is Howard E. LeFevre, president of B & L Trucking Company. Its chief function is to act as liaison between the University and the community, and in this role it assumes leadership in community activities as they relate to the local campus. With the coming of Dr. Barnes, the Board set out to achieve what was to be the most significant event in the history of Newark Campus up until that time.

Although Newark was one of the first regional campuses established by The Ohio State University, for one reason or another it had never acquired a home of its own. The time was rapidly approaching when, because of various needs of students and faculty, Newark Campus could no longer remain a guest of others. Lima and Mansfield moreover were either occupying or about to occupy buildings of their own. When state funds, therefore, became available for purchasing land and constructing a building upon it, a campaign developed to raise \$650,000, the amount stipulated if Licking County were to receive \$1,800,000 from the State. Options on parcels of land bounded by Granville Road to the south, Sharon Valley Road to the north, and Country Club Drive to the west had been taken before the fund drive began. J. Gilbert Reese, attorney, headed the campaign with Howard LeFevre and the Advisory Board playing important roles. Beginning about the middle of March of 1968, the campaign terminated at the end of April with gifts and pledges

totaling \$1,040,00--more than any other community serviced by The Ohio State University had raised in similar campaigns. In amazement, one employer commented that whereas he had had difficulty in getting his employees to pledge five dollars to various fund-raising campaigns in the past, when he suggested they pledge fifty dollars to be paid over a three year period, the majority doubled or tripled that amount.

Around 8:30 on the cold morning of October 27, a rather large group of officials and citizens gathered for ground breaking ceremonies. Governor James A. Rhodes and President Novice G. Fawcett were the principal speakers. Bids for the new structure were advertised on January 12 and opened on February 9, 1967. The Mellon-Stuart Company of Pittsburgh became general contractor, with the Electric Power Equipment Company of Columbus being responsible for electrical work and The Gesling Company of Lancaster for plumbing, heating and air-conditioning. Equipment to begin work at the site arrived on March 23. Although the target date for occupancy of the building had been set for spring of 1968, the actual move did not occur until the evening of November 18. The following day droves of students and several faculty members along with administrators, completed the task of carrying chairs, desks, and other equipment into classrooms, laboratories and offices. When Dr. Barnes arrived at the building at eight o'clock in the morning of the nineteenth, he found awaiting him, Dean Richard Zimmerman of University College, who had driven from Columbus to help carry furniture and assist in anyway he could. Classes

met in the new structure on November 20. From the beginning of the Autumn Quarter until the move, classes had been meeting in the First United Methodist Church, St. Paul's Lutheran Church and at the old and the new high schools.

The name of the new structure became Founders Hall. This designation was selected by a committee composed of Dr. Barnes, Dr. George Coats, Dr. Robert Dorrell; Advisory Board members John J. O'Neill, J. Gilbert Reese and Bennie Hill; and students Pamela Fox and Edwin Geer. The building became the official home of Newark Campus on January 11, 1969, when it was dedicated. President Fawcett delivered the dedicatory address. Among other speakers were Dr. John D. Millett, Chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, Howard LeFevre and J. Gilbert Reese. The building was open for public inspection the following day.

Founders Hall cost \$2,400,000. It contains 90,000 square feet and is situated on land totaling approximately 150 acres. The building which is completely air-conditioned, houses twenty-nine classrooms and lecture halls and laboratories for physics, fine arts, engineering graphics, music, chemistry, psychology, geology and biological sciences. The Lamplighter Theater seats about fifty. Initial inventory of the library includes a little less than 20,000 volumes. Other facilities are an art gallery, an electronic listening center, a 450 seat auditorium, fifty-seven faculty offices, a carrel room in conjunction with the library and a separate carrel room on the third floor for individual study, four conference rooms, administrative

offices, two student lounges and a student recreation room, a dining room with cafeteria counter, a faculty dining room, a faculty lounge, student organization offices and work rooms, a bookstore and a parking lot for just under 600 cars.

Enrollment at the beginning of the Autumn Quarter of 1968 totaled 737. Not only does Newark Campus draw students from communities and rural areas of Licking County, but it also enrolls a considerable number from neighboring Knox, Coshocton and Perry Counties, with fewer coming from Muskingum, Fairfield and Franklin Counties. Several come from Columbus itself.

Ten courses were offered to freshmen in the fall of 1957. Thirty-six are tentatively offered for the beginning of the 1969-70 school year. From a non-existent activities program in 1957, the local campus has built a program that includes a student senate, a student court, and a student advisory committee to the director, four interschool sports, several intramural sports, and a class in karate; three local fraternities and two local sororities in addition to the honorary fraternity, Phi Sigma; and five service groups. The campus supports the Oracle, the student newspaper, and the Outlook, a yearbook; however, the latter ceased publication at the end of its second year because of economic problems. The Faculty Council is now in its third year at Newark.

Cultural offerings include both theatrical and musical productions, presented by students and by outside talent. Ten Evenings on Campus, which imports performers from the Columbus Campus as well as professionals from the cultural and entertainment world, was initiated almost immediately following the occupancy of Founders Hall. Introduced at the beginning of Autumn Quarter, 1968, was the University Forum, which brings speakers that are specialists in various areas of activity. Beginning with the Fall Quarter, 1969, Newark Campus collaborated with the Celebrity Speakers Club of Licking County to present to town and gown national and international personalities.

People in the Land of Legend--sobriquet for Licking County--support the University wholeheartedly. In a talk to the Faculty Council in May of 1969, Dean Zimmerman stated that Newark was outstanding in its support of the school in reference to scholarships. Many local citizens also attend programs offered by the campus.

Growth of Newark Campus in all areas has been steady. Favored by a combination of fine administration, good faculty, and reliable students, the future looks bright. Relations with the parent campus are excellent. So long as situations obtain in the future as they have in the past, the local academic community will be free to progress. Thus, the centenarian of North High Street can look at its eldest teen-age offspring with a sense of satisfaction.